Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01

SAB-01 ACDA-05 IO-10 EB-07 FEAE-00 OMB-01 /081 W

R 280935Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO AMEMBASSY MANAMA

INFO AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

USINT BAGHDAD UNN

SECSTATE WASHDC 1679

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, BA, IR

SUBJ: BAHRAIN'S PRIME MINISTER STRENGTHENS BILATERAL TIES WITH

IRAN, FORESEES GULF SECURITY ARRANGEMENT

- 1. PRIME MINISTER KHALIFA SALMAN AL KHALIFA VISITED TEHRAN MAY 24-27. SHAH RECEIVED KHALIFA MAY 25. AFTER TALKS WITH PRIME MINISTER HOVEYDA IT WAS AGREED THAT IRAN WOULD TRAIN BAHRAINIS IN FIELDS OF INDUSTRY AND TRADE AND THAT CULTURAL TIES WOULD ALSO BE STRENGTHENED. NO JOINT COMMUNIQUE WAS ISSUED.
- 2. IN PRESS INTERVIEWS PUBLISHED AFTER HIS DEPARTURE, AL KHALIFA DENIED THAT US HAD BASE IN BAHRAIN AND CALLED FOR A GULF SECURITY ARRANTEMENT. HE SAID AMERICAN SHIPS, LIKE THOSE OF OTHER NATIONS, ENJOYED PORT FACILITIES THERE AND PAID CALLS AS BEFITTED SHIPS OF A FRIENDLY COUNTRY. AL KHALIFA THOUGHT THAT IMPORVED RELATIONS AONG IRAN, IRAQ AND SAUDI ARABIA AUGURED WELL FOR AN AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE TO KEEP THE GULF FREE OF OUTSIDE POWER INFLUENCE. SUCH AN UNDERSTANDING WOULD BE PREFERABLE TO A FORMAL PACT, HE TOLD NEWSMEN. AS FOR PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS, AL KHALIFA SUGGESTED THAT A LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MEETING OF GULF FOREIGN MINISTERS OR PREMIERS COULD PRECEDE A

MEETING OF HEAD OF STATE. NO TIMING WAS MENTIONED.

3. HASSAN IZADI, MFA OFFICIAL WHO HANDLES GULF AFFAIRS, COMMENTED THAT MAIN PURPOSE OF VISIT WAS SIMPLY TO REINFOCE FRIENDLY TIES ALREADY EXISTING BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES. HE THOUGHT TRAINING OFFER MADE BY HOVEYDA WOULD ONLY INVOLVE SOME 20 BAHRAINIS COMING TO IRAN, LEARNING PETROLEUM TECHNOLOGY AS WELL AS OTHER SKILLS. IZADI WAS CAUTIOUS ABOUT A PERSIAN GULF SECURITY ARRANGEMENT. HE COMMENTED THAT SPECULATION CONCERNING A MEETING OF GULF OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS MATTER WAS PREMATURE.

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Message Attributes

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